

Applicant : Dale R. Peterson  
Serial No. : 10/669,109  
Page : 2

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

1 (canceled).

2 (currently amended): ~~The A-stump grinding machine of claim 26 that is configured to mount to a powered vehicle, said stump grinding machine being operable to grind a stump and comprising:~~

~~a disc mount mounted at a mounting portion of the powered vehicle and pivotable about a generally horizontal axis; and~~

~~a grinding disc rotatably mounted to said disc mount and rotatable about a disc axis, said grinding disc having a plurality of grinding teeth on a face of said disc, said grinding disc being rotatably drivable by a rotational drive device connected to said grinding disc and to a power source of the powered vehicle, said disc mount being pivotable about said generally horizontal axis to arcuately move said grinding disc as said grinding disc is rotatably driven via said rotational drive device to grind a stump, wherein said rotational drive device comprises a telescopic drive shaft connected to said grinding disc and configured to connect to a power takeoff of the powered vehicle, said telescopic drive shaft defining a shaft axis that is adjustable relative to said disc axis, a length of said telescopic drive shaft being adjustable during arcuate movement of said grinding disc.~~

3-4 (canceled).

5 (currently amended): ~~The A-stump grinding machine of claim 26 that is configured to mount to a powered vehicle, said stump grinding machine being operable to grind a stump and comprising:~~

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Applicant : Dale R. Peterson  
Serial No. : 10/669,109  
Page : 3

~~a disc mount mounted at a mounting portion of the powered vehicle and pivotable about a generally horizontal axis; and~~

~~a grinding disc rotatably mounted to said disc mount and rotatable about a disc axis, said grinding disc having a plurality of grinding teeth on a face of said disc, said grinding disc being rotatably drivable by a rotational drive device connected to said grinding disc and to a power source of the powered vehicle, said disc mount being pivotable about said generally horizontal axis to arcuately move said grinding disc as said grinding disc is rotatably driven via said rotational drive device to grind a stump; and~~

~~a mounting frame configured to connect to the mounting portion of the powered vehicle and to extend generally horizontally therefrom, said disc mount being pivotally mounted to said mounting frame, wherein said mounting frame comprises a base portion attachable to the powered vehicle and a support portion mounted at one end to said base portion and extending generally horizontally from said base portion, said disc mount being pivotally attached to an opposite end of said support portion from said base portion.~~

6 (original): The stump grinding machine of claim 5, wherein said support portion is pivotally mounted to said base portion and is pivotable about a generally vertical axis.

7 (original): The stump grinding machine of claim 6, wherein said support portion is pivotable about said generally vertical axis via a first actuator and said disc mount is pivotable about said generally horizontal axis via a second actuator.

8 (previously presented): The stump grinding machine of claim 5, wherein said face of said grinding disc comprises a front face that is facing generally toward the powered vehicle when said stump grinding machine is connected to the powered vehicle.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Applicant : Dale R. Peterson  
Serial No. : 10/669,109  
Page : 4

9 (previously presented): The stump grinding machine of claim 5, wherein said face of said grinding disc comprises a rear face that is facing generally away from the powered device when said stump grinding machine is connected to the vehicle.

10 (currently amended): The stump grinding machine of claim ~~2~~ 26, wherein said stump grinding machine is configured to mount to a powered tractor.

11-12 (canceled).

13 (currently amended): ~~The A-stump grinding machine that is configured to mount to a powered vehicle, said stump grinding machine being operable to grind a stump and comprising:~~  
~~a disc mount mounted at a mounting portion of the powered vehicle and pivotable about a generally horizontal axis, said disc mount being pivotally mounted to the mounting portion of a support arm extending from the powered vehicle and defining the mounting portion of the powered vehicle; and~~  
~~a grinding disc rotatably mounted to said disc mount and rotatable about a disc axis, said grinding disc having a plurality of grinding teeth on a face of said disc, said grinding disc being rotatably drivable by a rotational drive device connected to said grinding disc and to a power source of the powered vehicle, said disc mount being pivotable about said generally horizontal axis to arcuately move said grinding disc as said grinding disc is rotatably driven via said rotational drive device to grind a stump of claim 37, wherein said disc mount comprises a shroud portion that houses said grinding disc and a mounting bracket that is pivotally mounted to the mounting portion of the support arm of the powered vehicle said support frame.~~

14-16 (canceled).

EST AVAILABLE COPY

Applicant : Dale R. Peterson  
Serial No. : 10/669,109  
Page : 5

17 (currently amended): The stump grinding machine of claim 13, wherein said mounting bracket is pivotable about said horizontal axis in response to an actuator that is connectable between ~~the said support arm frame~~ and said mounting bracket.

18 (previously presented): The stump grinding machine of claim 13, wherein said disc mount is biased toward an initial orientation, said disc mount pivoting about said horizontal axis away from said initial orientation in response to said grinding disc being moved into engagement with a stump via movement of the vehicle relative to the stump.

19 (currently amended): The stump grinding machine of claim 18, wherein said disc mount is biased to urge said grinding disc into and at least partially through the stump to grind the stump after movement of the vehicle is stopped.

20-21 (canceled).

22 (currently amended): The stump grinding machine of claim-~~24~~ 28, wherein said depth guides comprise blocks spaced along a radial path on said face of said grinding disc.

23 (currently amended): The stump grinding machine of claim-~~24~~ 26, wherein said depth guides are adjustably mounted to said grinding disc to adjust a depth of cut of said grinding teeth.

24 (currently amended): The stump grinding machine of claim-~~24~~ 22, wherein said depth guides include a cutting edge along a forward edge thereof.

25 (currently amended): The stump grinding machine of claim-~~5~~ 37, wherein said plurality of teeth are spaced radially along said face of said grinding disc.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Applicant : Dale R. Peterson  
Serial No. : 10/669,109  
Page : 6

26 (currently amended): A stump grinding machine that is configured to mount to a powered vehicle, said stump grinding machine being operable to grind a stump and comprising:

a mounting frame configured to connect to the vehicle and to extend generally outwardly therefrom, said mounting frame extending outward from the vehicle and being supported entirely at the vehicle;

a disc mount supported at said mounting frame; and

a grinding disc rotatably mounted to said disc mount and rotatable about a disc axis, said grinding disc having a plurality of grinding teeth on a face of said disc, said grinding disc being rotatably drivable by a rotational drive device connected to said grinding disc and to a power source of the powered vehicle, said grinding disc being rotatably driven and being movable in a direction generally along said disc axis and toward and into engagement with a stump to grind at least a portion of the stump as said grinding disc is moved axially at least partially through the stump, said grinding disc including a plurality of depth guides positioned on said face of said grinding disc, said depth guides being positioned on said face of said grinding teeth disc at different locations than said grinding teeth, said depth guides limiting the depth of cut of said grinding teeth as said grinding disc is rotated and engaged with a stump.

27 (original): The stump grinding machine of claim 26, wherein said depth guides comprise blocks spaced along a radial path on said face of said grinding disc.

28 (currently amended): A stump grinding machine that is configured to mount to a powered vehicle, said stump grinding machine being operable to grind a stump and comprising:

a mounting frame configured to connect to the vehicle and to extend generally outwardly therefrom, said mounting frame extending outward from the vehicle and being supported entirely at the vehicle;

a disc mount supported at said mounting frame; and

a grinding disc rotatably mounted to said disc mount and rotatable about a disc axis, said grinding disc having a plurality of grinding teeth extending outward from ~~on~~ a face of said disc,

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Applicant : Dale R. Peterson  
Serial No. : 10/669,109  
Page : 7

said grinding disc being rotatably drivable by a rotational drive device connected to said grinding disc and to a power source of the powered vehicle, said grinding disc being rotatably driven and being movable in a direction generally along said disc axis and toward and into engagement with a stump to grind at least a portion of the stump as said grinding disc is moved axially at least partially through the stump, said grinding disc including a plurality of depth guides positioned on said face of said grinding disc, said depth guides protruding outward from said face of said grinding disc to limiting-limit the depth of cut of said grinding teeth as said grinding disc is rotated and engaged with a stump, wherein said depth guides are adjustably mounted to said grinding disc and are adjustable to adjust a degree of protrusion from said face to adjust a depth of cut of said grinding teeth.

29 (original): The stump grinding machine of claim 28, wherein said depth guides are adjustably mounted via at least one shim plate removably positioned between said depth guide and said face of said grinding disc.

30 (original): The stump grinding machine of claim 27, wherein said depth guides include a cutting edge along a forward edge thereof.

31 (original): The stump grinding machine of claim 26, wherein said disc mount is pivotable about a generally horizontal axis relative to said mounting frame to arcuately move said grinding disc as said grinding disc is rotatably driven via said rotational drive device to grind a stump.

32 (original): The stump grinding machine of claim 31, wherein said mounting frame comprises a base portion attachable to the vehicle and a support portion mounted at one end to said base portion and extending generally horizontally from said base portion, said disc mount being pivotally attached to an opposite end of said support portion from said base portion.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY



Applicant : Dale R. Peterson  
Serial No. : 10/669,109  
Page : 8

33 (original): The stump grinding machine of claim 32, wherein said support portion is pivotally mounted to said base portion and is pivotable about a generally vertical axis.

34-35 (canceled).

36 (previously presented): The stump grinding machine of claim 37, wherein said rotational drive device comprises a telescopic drive shaft connected to said grinding disc and configured to connect to a power takeoff of the vehicle, a shaft axis of said telescopic drive shaft being adjustable relative to a disc axis of said grinding disc and relative to an axis of the power takeoff of the vehicle and a length of said telescopic drive shaft being adjustable during arcuate movement of said grinding disc.

37 (currently amended): A stump grinding machine that is configured to mount to a powered vehicle, said stump grinding machine being operable to grind a stump and comprising:

a mounting frame configured to connect to the vehicle;

a support frame having first and second ends, said first end being pivotally connected to said mounting frame and pivotable about a generally vertical pivot axis, said support frame being cantileverly supported at said first end and extending generally horizontally from said mounting frame;

a disc mount pivotally mounted to said second end of said support frame and being pivotable about a generally horizontal axis, said disc mount extending downwardly from said support frame; and

a grinding disc rotatably mounted at said disc mount and rotatable about a disc axis, said grinding disc having a plurality of grinding teeth and a plurality of depth guides on a face of said grinding disc, said grinding disc being rotatably drivable by a rotational drive device connected to said grinding disc and a power source of the powered vehicle, said disc mount being pivotable about said generally horizontal axis to arcuately move said grinding disc in a direction generally along said disc axis as said grinding disc is rotatably driven via said drive device to move said

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Applicant : Dale R. Peterson  
Serial No. : 10/669,109  
Page : 9

grinding disc axially toward and into engagement with a stump to at least partially grind a the stump, said depth guides comprising blocks protruding from said face of said grinding disc to limit a depth of cutting of said grinding teeth as said grinding disc is rotated and moved axially into engagement with and at least partially through the stump, wherein said support frame is pivotable about said generally vertical axis via a first actuator and said disc mount is pivotable about said generally horizontal axis via a second actuator.

38 (canceled).

39 (currently amended): The stump grinding machine of claim-38 37, wherein said depth guides are adjustably mounted to said grinding disc to adjust a depth of cut of said grinding teeth.

40-45 (canceled).

46 (new): The stump grinding machine of claim 26 including a biasing spring disposed between a portion of said mounting frame and a portion of said disc mount, said biasing spring biasing said disc mount toward an initial orientation, said disc mount pivoting about a generally horizontal axis away from said initial orientation in response to said grinding disc being moved into engagement with a stump, said biasing spring urging said grinding disc into and at least partially through the stump while said grinding disc is rotated to grind the stump.

47 (new): The stump grinding machine of claim 28 including a biasing spring disposed between a portion of said mounting frame and a portion of said disc mount, said biasing spring biasing said disc mount toward an initial orientation, said disc mount pivoting about a generally horizontal axis away from said initial orientation in response to said grinding disc being moved into engagement with a stump, said biasing spring urging said grinding disc into and at least partially through the stump while said grinding disc is rotated to grind the stump.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY